

A word of

# PATIENCE

To the

# RIOTERS

On their being Found in Guild-Hall, May 1682.

And Fortithly, Beloved, is it so, that our Riots are Found, and our Iniquities return'd upon our own Heads: What will the Enemy say in this the day of our Tryal, when we the Lights of the People, who for our Meekness and Humility, despis'd all Power beyond Common-wealth, shall for all our Sheeps Cloathing, be found at last to be Wolves, nay even Riotous and Ravenous Wolves. When the sober minded of the Earth, the grave Justice and the formal Tribune shall be found Guilty of Routs and Riots, nay abominable Routs and Riots as at this day we are, nor as your Roaring Damme For in a Tavern at 12 a Clock at Night, who makes a Rout with his Whores and his Healths, nor your Domineering Constable in a Conventicle, who makes a lawful Rout in the Exercise of his Authority, but we have done it in the Day and in the Light, boldly and undauntedly in Opposition and Contempt of Law and Government, by which we are justly Punished, and for which we have left no Remedy but PATIENCE.

Therefore since Patience is the last Refuge, I PATIENCE, almost out of all Patience for my Folly, yet out of the little Patience I have left, advise you with all Patience to bear the heavy Burden of your Fines, and be not like Men without Patience in the World, which I shall endeavor to bear with you, though it would put any Man but my self out of all Patience to stand the Battery of Rotten Eggs with a Gold Chain in a Wooden Roof,

But this is the effects of Swearing, I shou'd say Forswearing for the Brethren, what more could I do for you to uphold your tottering Cause? Had I ly'd or Libell'd, Mutiny'd or Rebell'd, I might have come off with a Fine as the Rest, and show'd my self as compleat an

As for my Ears as the wisest Alderman of the Company, but to be perjur'd, that's Sir P. Knight of the Post: That is nothing, but to be found in it, says the VVhig, that is the Devil; but to be Pilloried says the Tory, grant me Patience.

You know Brethren, Patience is a Vertue, which our Adversaries the Tories have practis'd for many Years, as you may find by our many late Plots and Projects which they still bore with Patience. Some had Patience to suffer all Reproaches, Lyes, and Indignities, some had Patience to be Imprison'd, and some to be hang'd. When the Parliament Voted the King no Money, he endured it with Patience. When T.O. jostled the Queen into the Plot, She bore it with Patience; when the Bill of Exclusion was brought against the Duke, he endured it with Patience, he bore his Punishment with Patience, and the Lords in the Tower bear their Imprisonment with Patience: Nay, *Lestranger* and *Heraclitus*, bore their Reproaches with Patience, *Stafford* endured the Act with Patience, and it shall be said hereafter, that *Thompson* bore the Pillory with Patience.

And indeed, (Beloved) let me tell you, that for want of this Spiritual Guide and Comforter Patience to go along with us; you have often falln short of the End in the Prosecution the Good Old Cause. How came O--s and the Plot to fall so soon? Because he wanted Pay and Patience to stand longer in a Lie? How came *Colledge* to be Hang'd for h's Honesty? Because he had not Patience to outlive the Gallows. How came the Parliament to be Dissolved at *Oxford*? Because they had not Patience to heal up the Wound till they stuck themselves to the Heart with Probing. How came our Brethren to fall into a Riot? Because they would be Kings, and had not Patience to stay till it came to their turn, and how comes a Prator to be Voted to the Pillory? Because he wanted Patience to stay for a Halter.

Now Beloved, you have seen the great Mischiefs and Inconveniencies we have brought upon ourselves for want of Patience, and indeed it is but necessary you should have him amongst you at this time! Does it not require Patience to be handled as we are? To loose our Votes, our Places, our Rights, and Priviledges, our Freedoms and Immunities, our Liberties and Properties, our Garters and Charters, our Wives and Premices, our Estates and Fortunes, O Hum-- All, would not all this I say require Patience? Oh but to loose our Ears too! Nay, verily Beloved, sure this would put a Man out of Patience.

This one word by way of Exhortation, and I have done: since we all Labour under the same Persecution, Pray for Patience, If you fall into the hands of the Law or the Hangman, Pray for Patience. If your Fine be greater then you are able to Pay Pray for Patience. If the Tories have the upper hand, have Patience. If any of the Brethren be Doom'd to the Pillory, think of Patience, if any be given over to *Jack Katch*, Pray for Patience.

FINIS.

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